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(54) **Hair care products**

(57) A hair care product which can exhibit an excellent setting power and an excellent use feeling as well as improved solubility is provided. The product comprises:

es:

- (A) a polyacidic amino acid or its salt,
- (B) cationic cellulose, and
- (C) an ampholytic surfactant.

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## Description

The present invention relates to a hair care product, comprising a polyacidic amino acid or its salt, cationic cellulose and an ampholytic surfactant, embodiments of which can exhibit an excellent setting power, an excellent use feeling and improved solubility.

Polyacidic amino acids such as polyaspartic acid, polyglutamic acid and the like exhibit a wettability [Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application (Kokai) No. 157,237/1994], and give a moist feeling and an excellent setting power to the hair when these compounds are mixed with hair care products such as a shampoo, a hair setting agent, a hair foam and the like. Meanwhile, cationic cellulose can reduce any rough feeling and give a smooth feeling to the hair. Accordingly, these materials are widely used in hair care products.

It was, however, found that when polyacidic amino acids are used in combination with cationic cellulose, insoluble complexes are formed and they cannot be dissolved. Such a problem did not occur when using a combination of polyacidic amino acids and cationic polymers other than cationic cellulose or a combination of anionic polymers other than polyacidic amino acids and cationic cellulose.

The present inventors have now found that the combined use of a polyacidic amino acid, cationic cellulose and an ampholytic surfactant can give a hair care product in which an insoluble complex is not formed and solubility is therefore improved. This finding has led to the completion of the present invention.

That is, the present invention relates to a hair care product comprising (A) a polyacidic amino acid or its salt, (B) cationic cellulose, and (C) an ampholytic surfactant.

Polyacidic amino acids which can be used in the present invention include polyaspartic acid and polyglutamic acid. The molecular weight thereof is not particularly limited, but it is preferably between approximately 500 and approximately 50,000 (degree of polymerization - between approximately 4 and approximately 430) to give a reasonable feeling in use, more preferably between approximately 1,000 and approximately 10,000 (degree of polymerization - between approximately 8 and approximately 90). Examples of the amino acid salt include salts of alkali metals such as sodium and potassium, amines such as diethanolamine and triethanolamine and amino acids such as arginine and lysine.

The cationic cellulose which is used in the present invention is not particularly limited. Cellulose which is obtained by reacting hydroxyethyl cellulose with 3-chloro-2-hydroxypropyltrimethylammonium chloride or glycidyltrimethylammonium chloride is preferable.

The ampholytic surfactant which is used in the present invention is not particularly limited. Examples thereof are as follows.

#### 1) Betaine-type ampholytic surfactant:

Carbobetaine-type surfactants such as alkyl dimethylaminoacetate betaine and alkyl dihydroxyethylaminoacetate betaine; amidobetaine-type surfactants such as fatty acid amidopropyl dimethylaminoacetate betaine; hydroxysulfobetaine-type surfactants; amidosulfobetaine-type surfactants; and phosphobetaine-type surfactants.

#### 2) Imidazoline-type ampholytic surfactant:

2-Alkyl-N-carboxymethyl-N-hydroxyethylimidazolinium betaine, 2-alkyl-N-carboxyethyl-N-hydroxyethylimidazolinium betaine and 2-alkyl-N-sodiumcarboxymethyl-N-carboxymethyloxyethylimidazolinium betaine.

#### 3) Alkylamino acid-type ampholytic surfactant:

Laurylaminopropionic acid or its salt, laurylaminodipropionic acid or its salt, and  $\beta$ -alanine-type ampholytic surfactants such as N-alkyl- $\beta$ -alanine.

The preferred amounts of the ingredients in the hair care product of the present invention are mentioned below. The amount of the polyacidic amino acid or its salt (A) is preferably between 0.05 and 15% by weight, more preferably between 0.1 and 5% by weight; the amount of the cationic cellulose (B) is preferably between 0.05 and 5% by weight, more preferably between 0.1 and 3% by weight; and the amount of the ampholytic surfactant (C) is preferably between 0.3 and 50% by weight, more preferably between 0.9 and 10% by weight.

The formulation of the hair care product of the present invention is not particularly limited. The hair care product can take the form of a liquid, a paste, a gel, a solid or a powder.

The hair care product of the present invention can contain, besides the above-mentioned essential ingredients, other additives which are usually incorporated in toiletries as required. Examples of other additives include anionic surfactants such as polyoxyethylenelauryl ether sodium sulfate; cationic surfactants such as stearyltrimethylammonium chloride and distearyltrimethylammonium chloride; nonionic surfactants such as glyceryl monostearate, sorbitan mon-

opalmitate and polyoxyethylenecetyl ether; wetting agents such as propylene glycol, 1,3-butylene glycol, glycerin, sorbitol, pyroglutamic acid salts, amino acids and trimethylglycine; hydrocarbons such as liquid paraffins, petrolatum, solid paraffins, squalane and olefin oligomers; higher alcohols such as stearyl alcohol and cetyl alcohol; superfatting agents; antidandruff agents; disinfectants; anti-inflammatory agents; crude drugs; water-soluble polymers such as methyl cellulose, hydroxycellulose and partially deacetylated chitin; antiseptics such as paraben; UV absorbers; pearling agents; pH adjusters; perfumes; and pigments.

### Examples

The present invention will be described more specifically by referring to the following Examples. However, the present invention is not limited thereto. In these Examples, all percentages are by weight.

### Examples 1 to 3 and Comparative Examples 1 to 3

With respect to the following shampoos, the solubility was evaluated. The results are shown in Table 1.

(Evaluation method)

The ingredients shown in Table 1, in the percentage proportions indicated, were heat-stirred at 70°C, and dissolved. Each solution was allowed to stand at room temperature until it reached a normal temperature. Then, the dissolved condition was visually observed, and evaluated according to the following standard.

O : clearly dissolved

x : precipitated or opaque

Table 1

	Examples			Comparative Examples		
	1	2	3	1	2	3
polyoxyethylenelauryl ether sodium sulfate	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0
cocoyldiethanolamide	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
cationic cellulose <sup>1)</sup>	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
lauryl dimethylacetate betaine	0.9					
cocoyl amidopropyldimethylacetate		1.2				
2-alkyl-N-carboxymethyl-N-hydroximidazolium betaine			0.3			
sodium polyaspartate (molecular weight 3600)	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
glycerin	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
antiseptic	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
purified water	*	*	*	*	*	*
Dissolved condition	O	O	O	x	x	x

1) "Leoguard GP" (a product of Lion Corporation)

\* balance

### Examples 4 to 7 and Comparative Examples 4 to 6

Shampoos having the formulations shown in Table 2 were prepared in a usual manner, and an organoleptic test was conducted for each. The results are shown in Table 2.

(Evaluation method)

Eight panelists washed their hair with the shampoos shown in Table 2. At this time, they evaluated the feeling organoleptically. The evaluation was conducted according to the following score.

good: 2

slightly good: 1

average: 0  
 slightly bad: -1  
 bad: -2

5 The average in this 5-grade evaluation was obtained. The results are as follows.

⊙: 1.5 to 2.0  
 ○: 0.5 to 1.4  
 Δ: -0.5 to 0.4  
 ×: -2.0 to -0.6

Table 2

		Examples				Comparative Examples		
		4	5	6	7	4	5	6
15								
	polyoxyethylene ether sodium sulfate	7.0	12.0		7.0	12.0	7.0	15.0
	coconut oil fatty acid glycine potassium	5.0		5.0	5.0		5.0	
20	lauric acid diethanolamide	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
	lauryl dihydroxyethylacetate betaine	5.0				5.0		
	lauric acid amidopropyldimethyl acetate betaine		3.0		2.0		3.0	
-5	2-alkyl-N-carboxyethyl-N- hydroxyethylimidazolinium betaine			8.0				
	cationic cellulose <sup>1)</sup>	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5		
	sodium polyaspartate (molecular weight 4200)	3.0	2.0	3.0	1.0		2.0	3.0
30	trimethylglycine	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
	1,3-butylene glycol	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
	antiseptic	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
	purified water	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
35	Organoleptic evaluation							
	Rough feeling in rinsing	⊙	⊙	○	⊙	○	Δ	Δ
	Finger-combing in rinsing	⊙	⊙	○	○	Δ	○	×
	Moist feeling after drying	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	Δ	Δ	○
40	Dry feeling after drying	⊙	⊙	⊙	○	○	○	Δ

<sup>1)</sup> "Polymer JR400" (a product of Amerchol Corporation)

\* balance

### Example 8

45 The ingredients shown in Table 3 were heat-stirred, and dissolved. Then, the mixture was stirred at room temperature until it reached a normal temperature. The resulting shampoo exhibited excellent solubility. It was also excellent in terms of a rough feeling in rinsing, a moist feeling after drying and a dry feeling after drying.

Table 3

Hair shampoo	wt %
sodium cocoylglutamate	8.0
lauroyl-N-methyl-β-alanine sodium	4.0
2-alkyl-N-carboxymethyl-N-hydroxyethylimidazolinium betaine	2.0
cationic cellulose <sup>1)</sup>	1.2

<sup>1)</sup> "Polymer JR400"

Table 3 (continued)

Hair shampoo	wt %
polyoxyethylene (40) hardened castor oil	1.0
sodium pyroglutamate	0.5
1,3-butylene glycol	5.0
potassium polyaspartate (molecular weight 4200)	3.0
citric acid	suitable amount
antiseptic	suitable amount
purified water	balance
Total	100.0

Example 9

The ingredients shown in Table 4 were heat-stirred at 70°C, and dissolved. Then, the mixture was gradually cooled to 30°C while being stirred to obtain a product. The resulting hair lotion exhibited an excellent solubility. It was also excellent in terms of a moist feeling after drying and a dry feeling after drying.

Table 4

Hair lotion	wt %
pyroglutamic acid isostearic acid polyoxyethyleneglyceryl	0.5
lauroyl glutamate-di(cholesterylododecyl) mixed ester	0.5
cationic cellulose <sup>1)</sup>	10
sodium laurylaminodipropionate solution (30%)	3.0
1,3-butylene glycol	3.0
sodium polyaspartate (molecular weight 3600)	1.2
N-lauroyl lysine	0.2
wetting agent <sup>2)</sup>	0.5
antiseptic	suitable amount
distilled water	balance
Total	100.0

1) "Leoguard GP"

2) "Prodew 400" (a product of Ajinomoto Co., Inc.)

Example 10

The ingredient (a) shown in Table 5 was gradually added to the ingredients (b) shown in Table 5 which had been heat-dissolved at 80°C, and the mixture was emulsified using a homogenizer. The emulsion was added to the ingredients (c) shown in Table 5, and the mixture was gradually cooled to 30°C while being stirred to obtain a stock solution. This stock solution was filled in a spray can, and a valve was mounted on the spray can. A gas was then charged therein. The resulting hair foam exhibited excellent solubility, and was also excellent in terms of a moist feeling after drying and a dry feeling after drying.

Table 5

Hair foam (Formulation of a stock solution)	wt %
(a) ingredient	
dimethylsiloxane	5.0
(b) ingredients	
dipropylene glycol	7.0
polyoxyethylene hardened castor oil	1.0
(c) ingredients	
hydroxysulfobetaine-type surfactant	5.0

Table 5 (continued)

Hair foam (Formulation of a stock solution)	wt %
cationic cellulose <sup>1)</sup>	2.5
sodium polyaspartate (molecular weight 3600)	2.0
hydrolyzed collagen	0.5
ethanol	15.0
antiseptic	suitable amount
purified water	62.0
Total	100.0
(Formulation of filling)	
stock solution	90.0
liquefied petroleum gas	10.0

1) "Leoguard GP"

## Claims

1. A hair care product comprising:

- (A) a polyacidic amino acid or its salt,
- (B) cationic cellulose, and
- (C) an ampholytic surfactant.

2. A hair care product according to claim 1, wherein the polyacidic amino acid is either polyaspartic acid or polyglutamic acid.

3. A hair care product according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the molecular weight of the polyacidic amino acid is between 500 and 50,000.

4. A hair care product according to claim 1, wherein ingredient (A) is an alkali metal salt or an amine.

5. A hair care product according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the cationic cellulose is obtained by reacting hydroxyethyl cellulose with 3-chloro-2-hydroxypropyltrimethylammonium chloride or glycidyltrimethylammonium chloride.

6. A hair care product according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the ampholytic surfactant is a betaine-type surfactant, an imidazoline-type surfactant or an alkylamino acid-type surfactant.

7. A hair care product according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the amount of ingredient (A) is between 0.05 and 15% by weight of the product.

8. A hair care product according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the amount of ingredient (B) is between 0.05 and 5% by weight of the product.

9. A hair care product according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the amount of ingredient (C) is between 0.3 and 50% by weight of the product.